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# JAMAICA PLAIN FRIENDLY SOCIETY

ORGANIZED 1874  
INCORPORATED 1901

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## ANNUAL REPORT, 1918-1919

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JAMAICA PLAIN, MASS.  
1919

# OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1919 - 1920

*President*—Rev. James A. Fairley.

*Vice Presidents*—Mr. Charles P. Bowditch, Rev. Thomas C. Campbell, Mr. Frank W. Clark, Mrs. Charles A. Holman, Mr. Edward G. Rowen, Mrs. Robert G. Morse.

*Honorary Vice Presidents*—Miss Caroline E. Chickering, Mr. E. W. Clark.

*Clerk*—Rev. Francis W. Sprague.

*Treasurer*—Mr. Charles W. Riddle.

*Auditor*—Mr. J. Curtis Swain.

## DIRECTORS

Mrs. Charles H. Adams	Mr. Henry W. Hart, Jr.
Mrs. Herman O. Beyer	Mrs. Charles A. Holman
Mrs. Edmund Billings	✓ Rev. Charles W. Jeffras
Mr. Charles P. Bowditch	Miss Ellen C. Morse
Miss Cornelia Bowditch	Mrs. Robert G. Morse
✓ Mr. Walter H. Black	Mr. Clyde E. Ordway
✓ Rev. Thomas C. Campbell	Mr. Thomas G. Rees
✓ Dr. Orville R. Chadwell	Mr. Charles W. Riddle
Mr. Frank W. Clark	Mr. Edward G. Rowen
✓ Rev. James A. Fairley	✓ Rev. Francis W. Sprague
Mrs. Chester M. Fuller	Rev. Merrill C. Ward
Miss Ellen H. Gleason	✓ Rev. Charles H. Williams
Mrs. William A. Wilson	

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. James A. Fairley	Mrs. Chas. A. Holman
Rev. Francis W. Sprague	Miss Ellen C. Morse
Mr. Charles W. Riddle	

## GENERAL SECRETARY

Mrs. Serviah R. Packard

*Stenographer and office assistant*—Miss M. A. Henderson

Office Hours:—Daily 11.00 - 12.30

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND VISITORS

Miss Ellen C. Morse, chairman, 60 Burroughs St.  
Mrs. Charles A. Holman, Secretary, 35 Eliot St.  
Mrs. Edmund Billings, 40 St. John Street  
Mrs. Walter Black, 19 Grovenor Road  
Mrs. Orville R. Chadwell, 799 Centre Street  
Mrs. William O. Crosby, 4 Park Lane  
Mrs. F. S. Curtis, 7 Revere Street  
Mrs. Chester M. Fuller, 30 Grovenor Road  
Miss Ellen H. Gleason, 83 Elm Street  
Mrs. John Hurd, 39 Aldworth Street  
Miss Selma Jones, 3 Bishop Street  
Miss M. A. Robertson, 13 Burroughs Place, Boston  
Mrs. F. P. Schmid, 156 Beech Street, West Roxbury  
Mrs. William A. Wilson, 10 Seaverns Ave.  
Mrs. Franklin R. Wing, 12 Harris Ave.  
Miss M. A. Woodworth, 11 Seaverns Ave.

## PRESIDING OFFICER

Rev. James A. Fairley

## ANNUAL REPORT

1918-1919

The Treasurer of the Jamaica Plain Friendly Society has sent out his urgent appeal for money to carry on the work and as the advisory committee is largely responsible for the spending of this money, it seems fitting that the subscribers and contributors should have a brief report from them in regard to the past year. This committee with representatives from all of the local churches, Protestant and Catholic, has held its weekly meetings from October to June. At these meetings all problems connected with the families, especially new cases, are discussed, and it is decided and voted what aid shall be given. Our general secretary, who meets with the committee, investigates every new case, so that she is able to put it intelligently before them. She is also authorized to act in emergency calls where delay might cause suffering, and many details must often be left to be carried out by her. All of these investigations and all details of each case are carefully recorded and kept on file, a very important part of the office work.

The influenza epidemic of last year left many delicate people, especially children, and when these were children of widows or deserted women it was impossible for them, without help, to be supplied with the necessary nourishment to build up their strength. No appeals seemed to us more important, and none needed more time and thought and money.

The Jamaica Plain Dispensary aided us with a generous contribution which was spent largely in giving milk orders for these families, and for this aid the committee was most grateful. In connection with the subject of under-nourishment we are glad to say that the Dietetic Bureau of Boston, through the courtesy of its head worker, has promised full time of a trained dietitian to work in co-operation with our general secretary in homes where the in-



come is inadequate, or where the mother does not know how to spend it wisely, the expense of this worker to be met by the Bureau. This problem, both of children and adults, is one of the greatest which we have to meet, and the co-operation of an outside agency will enable us to meet the greatest number of cases with minimum cost, while it must also add to our financial responsibility.

Perhaps, next to the needs of the children come those of dependent elderly women. The situation of many of these women is often very pathetic. They have worked as long as they were able, and if there are no relatives to help, they have come to a time when they are facing the future with great anxiety. Most of the Homes for Aged Women have long waiting lists, so that it is almost useless to consider them for new cases. We are able sometimes to obtain from relatives, or from some church or fund an allowance which will ensure partial support for these people, but, after this, it falls to us to take the responsibility for the rest by giving weekly or monthly help, and this is a great drain upon our treasury. It would be a wonderful help if each of such cases could be provided for by some kind hearted individual, or that we might have a fund created for this special purpose. Is it too much to hope that this good thing may come about in the future? Besides the needs of the delicate children and elderly people, which must be constantly considered, there are always the emergency calls, accidents to wage earners, whose families must have temporary help, invalids or "run-down" mothers to be aided at home or sent to convalescent homes, women to be advised in regard to spending their small income to the best advantage and to the making of better homes, helping the boys and girls to become good citizens. All of these subjects and many others come to us as we meet from week to week, and all seem to us worthy of much time and thought.

Miss Viets, who had served the society as general secretary with great efficiency for over two years, was obliged, on account of ill health, to resign her position in

March. Her conscientious devotion to the work, and to individual cases and her systematic office work cannot be too highly praised, and her resignation was accepted by the Directors with much regret. Mrs. Wilson, one of the Directors, who had done valuable volunteer work in the beginning of Miss Viets' illness, was fortunately able to fill the vacancy during the spring, and from June 1st to assist Mrs. Packard, who was then elected our permanent General Secretary.

Mrs. Packard had assisted Miss Viets the year before, and had then taken a responsible position with the Children's Mission for a year, resigning from that to return to our work the first of June. She is familiar with our district, of which she is now a resident, and her training and experience have been such that we feel the society is very fortunate in securing her for its work.

We wish always to remind our friends that while this society is here to relieve suffering and need, its aim is to try to learn the causes of poverty, and then to do all in its power towards removing these causes. What can be more important for the future of our whole community than to help in making clean, healthy, and happy homes and in keeping families together in those homes? All of this is preventive work which we regard as one of our greatest responsibilities. Such efforts are much more arduous than careless alms-giving, but no other charitable work is worth while, if we wish to accomplish permanent results for those who come under our care. Our General Secretary is ready to answer every call which comes to her in her office hours from 11 to 12.30, and the advisory committee, which meets on Thursday mornings from 10 to 11 will gladly welcome volunteer workers or any friends who may wish to talk over cases of need.

Our thanks are due to many kind friends who have helped us this past year, with clothing, boots and shoes, and with special contributions for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Needlework Guild has sent its usual fine gift of new clothing; the children of Miss Seeger's school have

sent their generous packages of toys, books and goodies for these holidays, and many families have been made happy by their remembrance. We have also received a welcome gift of money from the young girls of the Junior Aliances of the Unitarian church. Generous indeed has been all of this help in a year when the demands upon every one were so constant and urgent in many other ways. We earnestly hope that in the coming year the society may continue to receive the help and co-operation of its old friends, and that the newcomers in our district may be ready to become interested in its work and aims.

ELLEN C. MORSE,

For Advisory Committee.

STATISTICS

956 calls by Secretary.

330 applicants.

164 families dealt with in 1918-19.

58 new families

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The General Secretary, Mrs. Packard, presents the following chart showing the various kinds of work which come to the society, its touch with other organizations, and the aims and plans to be kept in mind in bringing about the rehabilitation of families.



SCHOOL VISITING	WORK WITH MEDICAL AGENCIES FOR	NUTRITION CLINIC	HOME MAKING
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sub. Normal</li> <li>2. Backward</li> <li>3. Retarded</li> <li>1. Anemic</li> <li>2. Truants</li> <li>3. Negligent Parents</li> <li>4. Lack of suitable clothing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Convalescent care</li> <li>2. T. B.</li> <li>3. Accident</li> <li>4. Temporary illness</li> <li>5. Chronic Invalids</li> <li>6. Elderly people</li> <li>7. Children referred by sch. nurse to                         <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dental</li> <li>2. Hospitals</li> <li>3. Psycho.</li> <li>4. Judge Baker Foundation</li> <li>Dr. Healy</li> <li>Dr. Bronner</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Eye &amp; Ear Infirmary</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chn. referred from schs.</li> <li>2. Class over 1 yr. could be formed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Budget</li> <li>2. Housing</li> <li>3. Sanitation</li> <li>4. Environment</li> <li>5. Standards</li> <li>6. Family life                         <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Social</li> <li>b. Religious</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
OFFICE	RELIEF	EMPLOYMENT FOR	RECREATION
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Records</li> <li>2. Accounts</li> <li>3. Correspondence with &amp; interchange of methods &amp; ideas with similar agencies</li> <li>4. Correspondence &amp; personal visits to Bureau Vital Statistics to verify births, deaths, marriages</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pensions</li> <li>2. Dispensary Milk Fund</li> <li>3. Emergency relief</li> <li>4. Special funds</li> <li>Coal</li> <li>Thanksgiving</li> <li>Christmas</li> <li>Advice</li> <li>5. Sympathy</li> <li>Encouragement</li> <li>6. Moral backing to clients obliged to take domestic trouble to court.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bread winner</li> <li>2. Wife who aids</li> <li>3. To supplement Mother's Aid</li> <li>4. Part time for chn. who need to work their way thro sch.</li> <li>5. Trying to furnish day women for applicants</li> <li>6. Work for day women en Max. effort min. result</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. County week</li> <li>2. Mothers' Rest</li> <li>3. Encourage use of play ground Clubs &amp; classes at J. P. N. House St. Thomas</li> <li>4. Guild activities</li> <li>5. Story telling at library &amp; N. House</li> <li>6. Invalid aid Rides</li> </ol>

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

*For the Year Ending October 1, 1919*

## INCOME

Subscriptions and donations	\$3,553.31	
Income from investments	584.50	
Miscellaneous—Interest on bank balance	15.94	
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	\$4,153.75	
Cash on hand beginning of year	566.79	
	<hr/>	\$4,720.54

## EXPENSES

Salaries and wages	\$1,565.00	
Printing, postage and office supplies	155.35	
Relief, provisions and supplies	2,536.00	
Miscellaneous—Telephone	\$48.10	
Typewriter	50.00	
	<hr/>	98.10
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	\$4,354.45	
Cash on hand end of year Oct. 1, 1919	366.09	
	<hr/>	\$4,720.54

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. W. RIDDLE,  
*Treasurer.*

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

I certify that I have examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the Jamaica Plain Friendly Society from October 1, 1918 to October 1, 1919 and I find the same correct.

J. CURTIS SWAIN,  
*Auditor.*